

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 18, 2012

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, on the 200th anniversary of President James Madison signing a declaration of war against Great Britain, it is \$15,736,971,094,472.17. We've added \$5,110,094,045,559.09 to our debt in just over 3 years. This is debt our Nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

LEECHIA JONES

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 18, 2012

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Leechia Jones of Saint Joseph, Missouri. Leechia is active in the community through her work and has been chosen to receive the YWCA Women of Excellence Award for Woman in the Workplace.

Leechia is humble regarding her numerous accomplishments she has earned through her leadership and dedication, which include the Communicator of the Year award from Southwestern Bell; the Sullivan Award from Catholic Charities, and the Distinguished Leadership Award from the National Association for Community Leadership and from Leadership St. Joseph. Often called upon to help with new initiatives, Leechia extended her wisdom and leadership as coordinator for the St. Joseph Youth Alliance during its beginning phases, serving there as a loaned team member from Family Guidance Center for three years.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Leechia Jones. She has made an amazing impact on countless individuals in the St. Joseph community. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress.

CELEBRATING CHIEF DAVID
DUBOIS' TWENTY NINE YEARS
WITH THE ROCHESTER POLICE
DEPARTMENT

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 18, 2012

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, on May 31, 2012 Chief David Dubois retired from the Rochester Police Department after 29 years as a law enforcement officer in that community. A native of Somersworth, New Hampshire, Chief Dubois decided from an early age to pursue a career in law enforcement based on the example of his father who also enjoyed a career as a police officer.

Chief Dubois began his career as a part-time police officer in Somersworth and became a full-time officer in Rochester in 1983.

He quickly rose through the ranks, serving the community in many capacities during his tenure. In May of 2002, he was appointed Police Chief and served in that position for a decade. Throughout his career, he has been known as a community leader committed to protecting the citizens he represented and the men and women under his command. Chief Dubois has also been active in the Rochester community and has participated in many civic organizations like the Rochester Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Club of Rochester.

I want to commend Chief Dubois for his service and wish he and his family well in the coming years.

MONTFORT POINT MARINES: JOE COBBS AND JOHNNY THOMPSONS; DISTINGUISHED MASON AND SON OF CIVIL WAR VETERAN LUKE MARTIN, JR.

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 18, 2012

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor two American trail blazers from North Carolina's first congressional district: Montfort marine veterans Johnny Thompskins and the recently deceased Joe Cobbs. I would also like to recognize the son of a Civil War veteran Luke Martin, Jr. Thompskins, Cobbs, and Martin will be honored by the Christian Community Charity Workers (CCCW) Inc., on June 24 at the Flame Banquet Center in New Bern, North Carolina.

Mr. Speaker, recruiting for the "Montfort Marines" began on June 1, 1942, following public pressure on President Franklin D. Roosevelt by Black leaders to issue Executive Order 8802, which barred government agencies and federal contractors from employment discrimination on the basis of race, creed, color or national origin. The order also required all of the U.S. Armed Services, including the United States Marine Corps, to recruit and enlist African Americans. Despite an era thick with racial discrimination, Black recruits lined up by the thousands to defend the freedoms of people abroad, while still being denied basic unalienable rights at home.

Among the inaugural class of Black Marines were Johnny Thompskins and the late Joe Cobbs. Thompskins, a man of small stature but enormous courage; and Cobbs, who developed a strong work ethic while working his family's farmland, received basic training at the segregated Camp Montfort Point in North Carolina, because no Black recruit was allowed to enter the main base of nearby Camp Lejeune unless accompanied by a white Marine.

Nevertheless, these three men were unafraid by the onslaught of World War II. They understood that victory in war was only achievable with the talent of its Black citizens. As a result, these men served their country with distinction, chartered uncharted territory, and set the bar for exemplary African American servicemen.

At 94 years old, Martin is widely known around the state of North Carolina as one of a few living children of Civil War veterans. His father, Luke Martin, Sr., was a slave in Hertford County when he joined the Union Army

and began to bravely fight for the freedoms of his loved ones.

Nonetheless, Martin, Jr. is a distinguished mason who has earned enormous respect for building a several structures across Craven County. Martin's son Frederick Martin was killed in the Vietnam War in 1968.

Today, Thompskins and Martin reside in New Bern, North Carolina. Cobbs also lived there until his passing in May. All entered the world as young men determined to forge independence and enthusiastic to contribute to the country and their communities.

Mr. Speaker, the contributions of Thompskins, Cobb, and Martin to America expand the definition of patriotism. Their trailblazing efforts will forever remain a cornerstone in American history.

LINDA JUDAH

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 18, 2012

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Linda Judah of Saint Joseph, Missouri. Linda is active in the community and has been chosen to receive the YWCA Women of Excellence Lifetime Achievement Award: Woman in the Workplace.

Ms. Judah has served as Director of Buchanan Child Support Enforcement, a hospital and school nurse, and is currently the Executive Director of the Social Welfare Board. Linda has grown to have a compassionate understanding of the specific health challenges faced by low-income patients and has worked aggressively to overcome those challenges. Through her hard work and dedication to ensure that the Social Welfare Board achieve the highest level of care, the clinic now serves as a standard for others seeking to provide high-quality care.

In addition to serving as a leader for several overseas medical trips, Ms. Judah has worked diligently to secure funding for the free clinic through a period of economic uncertainty and has earned such a respect among nursing students and interns that she was invited to be the commencement speaker at graduation.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Linda Judah. She has made an amazing impact on countless individuals in the St. Joseph community. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress.

HONORING THE NEIGHBORHOOD
MUSIC SCHOOL AS THEY CELEBRATE
THEIR CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 18, 2012

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to join the many who have gathered in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Neighborhood Music School in New Haven, Connecticut. This is a remarkable milestone for this wonderful institution of learning.